Minute Men Founder Gets Parole

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Associated Press

Robert B. DePugh, founder of the anti-Communist Minute Men organization, was given a parole yesterday by the U.S. Board of Parole.

The 8-member board denied parole to three others and a former city official of Newark, N J.

DePugh, 49, is serving a composite sentence of 11 years, 2 months and 28 days for possessing automatic weapons without registering them and failure to appear on bond.

Confined at the U.S. penitentiary in Atlanta, DePugh, a Norborne, Mo., businessman, began serving his sentence Jan. 31, 1967, and will be released April 30, 1973.

The board denied parole to Salvatore Battaglia, 64, identified by the Senate Permanent Investigations subcommittee in 1969 as the former acting head of the organized crime family in Chicago.

Battaglia is serving a 15-year sentence for obstructing and delaying interstate commerce and for conspiracy. He began serving his sentence on May 29, 1967 and is confined at the U.S. penitenitary at Marion, Ill. His case was continued until April, 1974.

The board also denied parole to John A. Masiello, Sr., New York, and his son, John, Jr. The senior Masiello, 52, is serving an aggregate sentence of seven years for two charges of conspiracy and bribery, conspiracy and false statements to the Selective Service Board and failure to make an income tax return.

With a number of others, including his son, Masiello was charged in a case involving bribing Post Office employees to obtain postal contracts for his trucking service. The elder Masiello is serving time at the federal prison camp in Allenwood, Pa, while his son is at the federal correctional institution at Danbury, Conn.

Phillip Gordon, 57, a former city councilman and corporation counsel in Newark, also was denied parole.